

House Resolution 1566

By: Representatives Burns of the 157th, Parrish of the 156th, Roberts of the 154th, England of the 108th, Fleming of the 117th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. James M. (Jim) Andrew and inviting him to appear before
2 the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. James M. (Jim) Andrew, the former president of Georgia Electric
4 Membership Corporation (EMC), the trade association for the state's 42 electric co-ops, was
5 appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed in the U.S. Senate in November,
6 2005, as Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Utilities
7 Programs; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Andrew is responsible for meeting the goals of the department, to improve
9 life in rural America by administering the country's rural electric, telecommunications, water,
10 and waste programs, and as head of one of three rural development agencies, Mr. Andrew
11 routinely works with administrators of USDA's rural housing and business programs; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Andrew graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa with a
13 degree in business administration and went on to serve in the Alabama Army National Guard
14 for eight years, and in the corporate world he worked in sales and management for an
15 electrical distribution equipment manufacturer and did some financial consulting in the
16 brokerage division of a major insurance company; and

17 WHEREAS, he met his wife, Mary, in Atlanta in 1963, they married in 1964, and in 1968
18 they moved to her home in Jenkins County to help run the family farm, and it was during this
19 time that he was introduced to electric co-ops; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1978, he went into the agricultural irrigation business with two friends in
21 Waynesboro, eventually becoming the sole owner in 1983, and sold the growing business in
22 1999; and

1 WHEREAS, while running this business he served on the board of directors of the Jefferson
2 Energy Cooperative in Wrens, a post to which he was elected in 1976 and continued serving
3 for 25 years; and

4 WHEREAS, the board elected him to represent his local co-op on GEMC's statewide board,
5 where he later served as its president, going on represent to Georgia on NRECA's national
6 board; and

7 WHEREAS, in his 16 years with the national organization, he served as president of the
8 board for two years and helped launch Touchstone Energy's national co-op marketing
9 campaign, and he served on the board of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Finance
10 Corporation; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Andrew has dedicated more than 30 years of his life to electric cooperatives
12 and there is no better advocate for cooperatives than he.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
14 the members of this body join together to recognize Mr. Jim Andrew and commend him on
15 his exemplary service to his community, rural Georgia, and the nation and invite him to
16 appear before this body at a date and time designated by the Speaker of the House for the
17 purpose of being recognized by the House and receiving an appropriate copy of this
18 resolution.